

April 14, 2024

Welcome to worship at LaGrave. Because our worship proceeds without announcements, please carefully follow the order of worship printed below, noting that we use *two* different red hymnals. The *Worship & Rejoice* hymnal will be indicated by bold, italic type. An asterisk (\*) denotes standing for those who are able. We are glad that you are here. Let us worship God together.

## EVENING WORSHIP 6:00 PM

*Please prepare your heart and mind for worship  
with a time of prayer and meditation.*

The Prelude:

“Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!” John Ferguson

“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia” Tanzanian Alleluia, Franklin D. Ashdown

“Variations on *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*” Piet Post

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: “Through Love to Light” Elaine Hagenberg

*Through love to light! Oh wonderful the way that leads from darkness to the perfect day! From darkness and from sorrow of the night, to morning that comes singing o’er the sea. Through love to light! Through light, O God, to thee, who art the Love of love, the eternal Light of light!*

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\*The Call to Worship

\*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 5

“Let All Things Now Living”

*all who are able sing descant on verse 2*

\*The Greeting

\*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

### *Creation*

The Reading: *Our World Belongs to God* Paragraphs 7,8,9

Our world belongs to God—not to us or earthly powers, not to demons, fate, or chance.

**The earth is the Lord’s.**

In the beginning, God—Father, Word, and Spirit—called this world into being out of nothing,

**and gave it shape and order.**

God formed sky, land, and sea;

stars above, moon and sun,

**making a world of color, beauty, and variety—**

**a fitting home for plants and animals, and us—**

a place to work and play, worship and wonder,

love and laugh.

**God rested and gave us rest.**

**In the beginning everything was very good.**

The Response: “All Creatures of Our God and King” Mark Hayes

*All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing:*

*Alleluia!*

*Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam! O*

*praise him! Alleluia!*

*Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heaven along, O,*

*praise him! Alleluia! Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening,*

*find a voice! O praise him! Alleluia!*

*All ye men of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye!*

*Alleluia! Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise, O praise him! Alleluia!*

*Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son! And praise the Spirit, Three in One!*

*O praise him! Alleluia!*

*All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing:*

*Alleluia! Amen!*

### *The Redeemer*

The Reading: *Our World Belongs to God* Paragraphs 18&5

While justly angry, God did not turn away

from a world bent on destruction

but turned to face it in love.

**With patience and tender care**

**the Lord set out on the long road of redemption**

**to reclaim the lost as his people and the world as his**

**kingdom.**

God holds this world with fierce love.

Keeping his promise, he sends Jesus into the world,

pours out the Holy Spirit, and announces the good news:

**sinners who repent and believe in Jesus**

**live anew as members of the family of God—**

**the firstfruits of a new creation.**

The Response: “Give Me Jesus” Spiritual, arr. Larry L Fleming

*O, when I am alone, give me Jesus. Give me Jesus, you may have all*

*the rest, give me Jesus.*

*O, when I come to die, give me Jesus. Give me Jesus, you may have all*

*the rest, give me Jesus.*

*And when I want to sing, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus. And when I am alone, give me Jesus.*

### *Mission*

The Reading: *Our World Belongs to God* Paragraph 41

Joining the mission of God,

the church is sent with the gospel of the kingdom

to call everyone to know and follow Christ

**and to proclaim to all the assurance that in the name**

**of Jesus there is forgiveness of sin and new life for all**

**who repent and believe.**

The Spirit calls all members to embrace God’s mission

in their neighborhoods and in the world:

**to feed the hungry, bring water to the thirsty,**

**welcome the stranger, clothe the naked,**

**care for the sick, and free the prisoner.**

We repent of leaving this work to a few,

**for this mission is central to our being.**

The Response: “Go Forth into the World in Peace” John Rutter

*Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that*

*which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-*

*hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love*

*and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the*

*blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be*

*upon you, and remain with you forever, Amen.*

### *Everlasting Joy*

The Reading: *Our World Belongs to God* Paragraphs 55&58

Our hope for a new creation is not tied to what humans

can do, for we believe that one day

every challenge to God’s rule will be crushed.

**His kingdom will fully come, and the Lord will rule.**

**Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

With the whole creation we join the song:

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,

to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength

and honor and glory and praise!”

He has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God,

and we will reign on earth.

**God will be all in all, righteousness and peace will**

**flourish, everything will be made new, and every eye**

**will see at last that our world belongs to God.**

**Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus!**

The Response: “Music Down in My Soul”

Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

*I hear the music in the air. I can feel it in the air. There must be a God somewhere. Over my head I hear music in the air. There must be a God somewhere. Over my head I hear singing in the air. There must be a God somewhere. I got this music down in my soul; and it fills my heart with the joy of the Lord! I've got joy! I've got it, joy everlasting. I've got peace! I've got it, peace everlasting. I've got love! I've got it, love everlasting. Love in my heart. Oh yes, I got peace in my soul. Oh yes, I got joy in my heart; joy today! Do you love the Lord? I love the Lord! Well! I got this joy in my heart; I got joy! I got peace! I got love in my soul!*

The Pastoral Prayer

\*The Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 900:1,3,4,5  
“O Holy Spirit, by Whose Breath”

The Scripture: Genesis 1:26-31 (p.3)

The Sermon: “**WORLDLINESS**”

\*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 356  
“Fill Thou My Life, O Lord, My God”

\*The Benediction

\*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

\*The Choral Benediction: “The Lord Bless You and  
Keep You” John Rutter

*The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.* Numbers 6:24

\*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

\*The Postlude:  
“Rigaudon” André Camppra, arr. Virgil Fox

*Offering plates are located at the Sanctuary exits.  
Thank you for your continued support of our ministries.*

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister  
Norma de Waal Malefyt – organist  
Grand Rapids Christian High School Chamber Chorale,  
Candice Sytsma – director  
Careta Gilmore – accompanist

**A warm welcome to the Chamber Chorale from Grand Rapids Christian High School**, who will sing several anthems in worship this evening. LaGrave members Ian Day

and Simon Speulstra are members in the Chorale, as well as Emily Hermen, daughter of LaGrave administrative manager Amy Hermen. May God bless the ministry of these young singers.

**Today's altar flowers are given in loving memory of Eve Meeter by her friend/son, Paul Wright.** Eve loved Jesus Christ and God, the Father. Eve also loved her LaGrave church family, conversations with them and spiritual fulfillment from weekly services. A Bible verse Eve lived by was: "Thou dost keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusts in thee. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock." Isaiah 26:3-4

**The April special offering** is for **Family Promise**, who partners with local congregations, individuals, families, foundations and corporations to provide emergency shelter and case management for families with children facing a housing crisis.